



# JERRY PETROWSKI

WISCONSIN STATE SENATOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Contact: Senator Jerry Petrowski

January 6, 2017  
(608) 266-2502

## Senator Petrowski Presented Community Health Center Friend Award

**Wausau, WI...** Today, State Senator Jerry Petrowski (R- Marathon) was presented the *Community Health Center Friend* Legislative Award from the Bridge Community Health Clinic in Wausau for his support of Health Centers in Wisconsin during the 2015-16 legislative session. The honor is given to state and federal lawmakers dedicated to advancing access to medical, dental and behavioral health care in Wisconsin.

“We are grateful for Senator Petrowski’s hard work during this recent legislative session,” said Jen Smith, Bridge Clinic’s Executive Director. “His efforts in the Legislature to educate his peers on the value of Health Centers is truly appreciated.”

Last session, Senator Petrowski stood by Community Health Clinics by working to amend proposed changes to the state’s reimbursement methodology for Wisconsin’s Federally Qualified Health Centers. Support for Community Health Clinics has ensured continued access to health care for Wisconsinites in need, and ultimately reduced the financial burden that inpatient hospitalization and emergency room visits for uninsured individuals have on taxpayers.

“I am old enough to remember a time when it was a challenge to access basic healthcare in northern Wisconsin, but now, thanks to places like the Bridge Community Health Clinic, so many people are able to receive the care that they need,” said Senator Petrowski.

Community Health Clinics provide cost-effective primary and preventive medical care to low income communities across Wisconsin. The services provided by Community Health Clinics offer individuals an alternative to vastly more expensive treatment in emergency rooms.

The Bridge Community Health Clinic located in Wausau, Wisconsin, provides high-quality, comprehensive care to approximately 7500 patients each year.

###